

For Immediate Release

Elderly should be aware of scam techniques

The Springfield Police Department took a report today from a citizen who received a suspicious telephone call. The caller stated that due to an increase in home invasions in the Springfield and Greene County areas (based on SPD's recent release of the Uniform Crime Report), their company is offering free home security systems including installation which would require five hours of total access to the residence. When the citizen asked for a business name and phone number, the caller declined to provide that information. The citizen attempted to call the number back by using caller ID, but it was not a working number.

This type of activity has been known to be related to later residential robberies or burglaries. We caution all citizens to be skeptical of cold calls or unannounced home visits from people who are claiming be a service provider. The elderly are often a target for these types of criminals. Never rush into a decision about their service, insist on attaining business information, and do not provide any personal information or details about times and days that you will be away from your home.

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